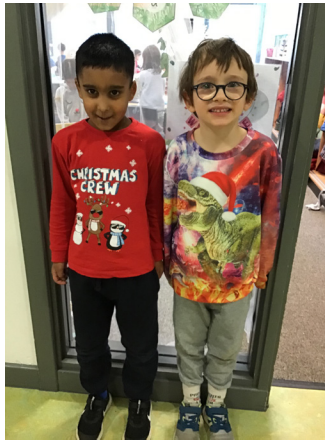
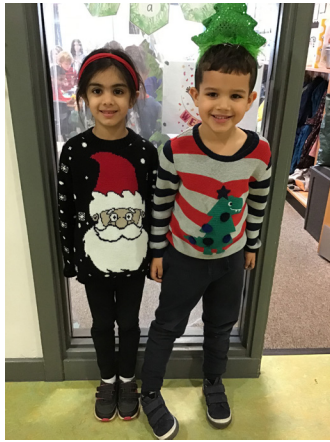


# NEWSLETTER

Inspiration & Success



## MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE!

From all of us at Oswald Road Primary School, we'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. It has been a challenging year for us all, so it was lovely to round it off with plenty of festive celebrations in school. First up, we had Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11th December. This year we were raising money for a local charity, Francis House Children's Hospice. A big thank you to all of you who wore a Christmas jumper and made a donation via ParentPay- thanks to you we raised £149.70 for Francis House!





# Headteacher's Page



*To all the families of Oswald Road Primary School,*

*Well....what an unusual first term that has been!*

*As you will know, school has operated over the term in line with guidance and although things have been very different in many respects, we have seen how amazingly adaptable our children and staff are. It has been very sad when we have had to do bubble closures and partial closures. Although we all realise the important thing is keeping safe, we also recognise not having access to face to face schooling is a huge loss (and a huge pressure on parents and carers).*

*As a school we have been keen to provide a calm and happy approach for the children. The warmth that has been shown to us by the parents and carers has been so very much appreciated. It genuinely has felt like such a*

*tight-knit community and we are so grateful for this.*

*I'd also like to say we're in a very fortunate position of having a strong Governing Body who provide the appropriate level of challenge and support for the school. Throughout these difficult times, they have provided strong support to us and personally I want to share how grateful I am.*

*In all honesty, however tough things are in the world right now, being able to be in school and be with the children again has genuinely kept us all going.*

*Sending you all lots of love and a peaceful break*

*Deborah Howard  
Headteacher*





# ROBERT BRINGS A SMILE AT CHRISTMAS

A big well done to Robert from 4LM, who went round the local area at the weekend spreading Christmas cheer to the elderly in his Cubs uniform. Working with Chorlton Good Neighbours, he went to give some packages out to people who most likely will be spending their Christmas alone. Great work Robert- you're definitely on Santa's nice list this year!



## SANTA'S SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE NORTH POLE!



The children were given a very special surprise message all the way from the North Pole at the end of term! Santa Claus himself sent a special video message thanking the children of Oswald Road Primary School for all their hard work this year, congratulating them all on how well they had done in settling back into school after such a tricky time in September. If you'd like to watch the video yourself at home, [please click here!](#)





# ECO TEAM UPDATE

Our Eco Team Leaders, Mrs Daley and Mrs Eldridge, have started working with the Year 1 Eco Team Ambassadors this half term. The team looked at a PowerPoint and talked about ways we could help the environment. They also discussed why it's important to pick up litter and recycle. The Eco Ambassadors from each Year 1 class have now started litter picking on a Friday morning in the big playground! Great work, everyone!





# WACKY HAIR DAY FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to everyone that took part in our Wacky Hair Day and helped us raise £336.09 for Children in Need! It has been a tough year for us all, so we're so especially thankful for all of the donations!





# RIGHTS RESPECTING AMBASSADORS

Last half term the Rights Respecting Ambassadors were chosen for each class in Years 1-6. The ambassadors have a very important job to represent their class and make sure all children's voices are heard. Here they are, our wonderful class representatives!





# EMAAN'S FABULOUS FUNDRAISING

The lovely Emaan from Miss Tracanna's Reception class walked 2km around Chorlton Water Park this term (dressed in her shimmer costume!) raising an impressive £1,100 for the oncology ward at the Manchester Children's Hospital, and in particular to support her 4 year old friend who is currently receiving intensive and invasive treatment for cancer. We are so proud of Emaan and her fantastic achievement!



# HAPPY HELPERS CLUB

Clover, from Year 3, has organised her own 'Happy Helpers Club'. Together with a group of friends from her class, Clover organised a litter pick around Chorlton Water Park. The Happy Helpers collected 2 bags full of rubbish, which Clover sorted through and recycled when she got home. Amazing work, everyone!





# 'HOW ARE YOU?' RAINBOW ART DISPLAY

All children in Years 1-6 made a piece of art in their lessons with Mrs Appleby this term as part of our recovery curriculum. The project, called "How Are You?", was all about promoting wellbeing and seeing the positives in little moments of joy. The children had to do a piece of art to represent something they are grateful for. The results were put on display to form a giant rainbow!





# CELYN WINS NATIONAL POETRY AWARD

On National Poetry Day (1st October) Celyn from 4EC was announced as one of the winners of the LoveReading4Kids Poetry Prize! Celyn was named as the Judges' Winner- his poem 'Plip Plop' was unanimously shortlisted and loved by the judges. As a result of his win, Oswald Road was given a £250 voucher to spend on books, plus an author visit (which will take place later in the year once guidance allows visitors into school). Congratulations Celyn!



# ELLA'S SALE FOR SCHOOL FUNDS

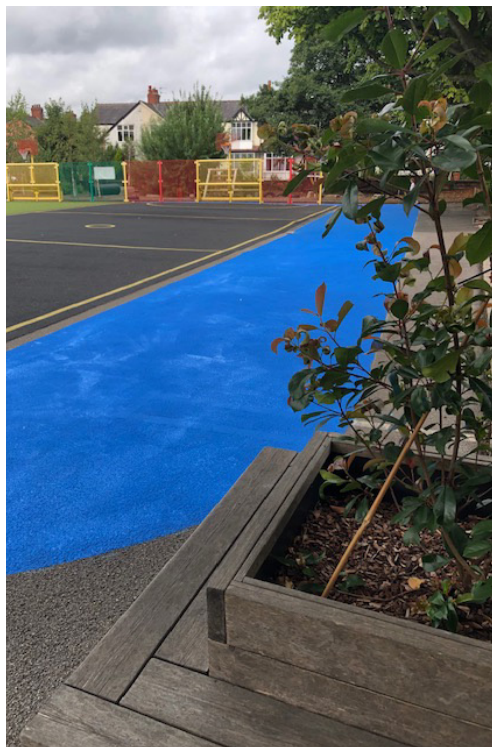
Towards the end of the summer holidays Ella from 5CC set up a stall, selling some of her toys to raise money for school! Thank you for all your hard work Ella, this is such a lovely reminder of the fantastic community spirit we have here at Oswald Road!





# PTA FUNDS NEW RUNNING TRACK

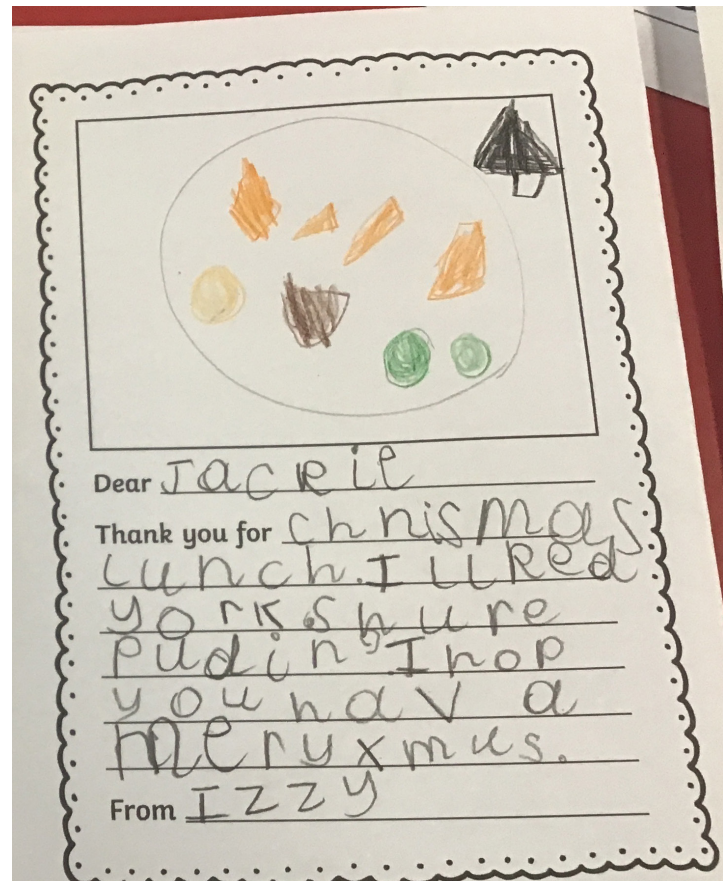
Over the school closure and summer holidays the PTA worked incredibly hard to maintain the great work done at the Big Dig back in March, being in school whenever safely possible, to weed the planters, water the plants and make sure all is growing in the right direction while they had the chance. They've also made sure the playground was ready for the new running track which was installed in August. The children have loved making use of their new running track since we came back in September. A huge thank you to the PTA for all the hard work and fundraising they do for the school. All that fundraising makes a huge difference!





# CHRISTMAS DINNER

As well as celebrating Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11th December, this was also the day we had our annual school Christmas dinner! The children loved tucking into their traditional roast with all the trimmings, followed by a chocolate ice cream tree for pudding. The Reception children enjoyed their lunch so much that they decided to spend the afternoon writing thank you letters to our wonderful kitchen staff!





# VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

As we sadly weren't allowed to have parents into school this year for our annual Christmas performances, our children and teachers got creative and made some festive videos to send out to their families instead! The children in Early Years and KS1 recorded videos of them performing their favourite Christmas songs, whilst KS2 children recorded a class performance of '2020 Vision', a hilarious play written by our very own Mr Salisbury! Highlights included children taking on the role of Boris Johnson to deliver his 'PM's briefings', 'strictly two-metres dancing' and a 'clap for carers' that goes a bit too far!



## PARENT PARKING WARDEN SCHEME

A group of parents has kindly put themselves forward to work as volunteer 'traffic wardens' at pick up and drop off times around school. As you'll be aware, we have had an ongoing problem with people parking or waiting in the wrong place during these busy times, and this poses a safeguarding risk to our whole school community. The parent traffic wardens will help by conveying messages to those that choose to park illegally around school during pick up and drop off times.

We are now looking for other parents and carers to volunteer to work alongside them on a rota. The hope is that we will have a large team together to support in campaigning for safer streets. If you think this is something you would like to get involved in, please email [e.linton@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:e.linton@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk).





# OPERATION OSCAR UPDATE



Operation Oscar has had a fantastic few months their total has topped £60k, which is amazing, and they are edging closer to their target of £65k...

We wanted to give a special mention to some of Oscar's friends from Year 2, who have been busy fundraising.

Simon Allan, his sister Caitlin, and Jack Gould are all running 20 miles in December, this is no mean feat in this cold and wet weather!

Marcus Leigh managed an amazing 4000 sit-ups in 20 days!!

Otis Murtagh showed off his spooky soccer skills on Halloween completing a 2 mile course whilst dressed as a frightening T-Rex...

Thank you so much to you all, you are all Operation Oscar Heroes, raising a phenomenal £1932 so far!!

We also want to mention the amazing support our local football club West Didsbury & Chorlton AFC have given- the committee, players, staff and fans have really taken Oscar and his campaign to heart, the club invited Oscar to be mascot at one of the games allowing us to have a collection on the day. There have also been a number of other fundraising activities with them- the players are doing a sponsored virtual run to Krombacher in Germany and back (a total of 2000 miles), the independent fans group Union 1908 have been selling desk calendars for Oscar, and a further group completed a 30 mile sponsored walk on Saturday 5th December, taking six South and East Manchester NWCFL club grounds. So far the combined efforts of all involved has raised a massive £6k.

As a reminder, Oscar was born 13 weeks early and suffered a bleed on the brain which has resulted in him having Cerebral Palsy. His condition has affected his lower limbs, meaning he uses a wheelchair.

A life changing operation called SDR (Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy) could give him a better chance of leading an independent life. Unfortunately, this operation isn't funded by the NHS and isn't covered by medical insurance.

The Michell family need to raise £65k, they are on £59k and are edging closer to their target!! CAN YOU HELP, COULD YOU COMPLETE A CHALLENGE FOR OSCAR?? Oscar is ready for his operation now and needs your help please donate here <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/OperationOscar>

If any of you would like to get involved in fundraising for Oscar please get in touch by emailing [operationoscarsdr@gmail.com](mailto:operationoscarsdr@gmail.com)





# FRIENDS OF OSWALD ROAD PTA

We're coming to the end of a very tough year, but we've managed to make it through and hopefully create a few events that you've enjoyed. Our owl hunt was a huge success and we saw many people wandering around Longford Park come rain or shine, map in hand, excited to find the next owl. It was great to see so many families out having some fun, especially during lockdown.

Our raffle brought in some fantastic prizes from the community and we're really pleased that we've managed to keep this going without having actual tickets to sell. We hope all our winners enjoy their prizes over the holidays.

We also thoroughly enjoyed making our virtual grotto happen, with so many children getting to have a one on one chat with Father Christmas via Zoom. It was good to keep the magic alive! Mr Scruff delivered again with his school disco and we hope you all enjoyed it, and perhaps had a bit of pizza from Croma too!

We've managed to raise over £1,500 through these winter fair events, which will go towards further improvement of the outdoor space at school and in particular the nursery and reception playgrounds, as well as supporting the school with further technology for learning.

Next year we hope to bring you a couple of outdoor events (restrictions permitting) as well as the much loved auction of promises, and you can keep up to date on what's happening @OswaldRdPTA on Twitter and @friendsofoswaldroad on Facebook. If you have any suggestions you'd like to share with us for 2021 please get in touch at [oswaldrdpta@gmail.com](mailto:oswaldrdpta@gmail.com).

We hope you enjoy the holidays, so have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from us all on the FORS PTA Committee.

